UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

2.4

MEMORANDUM DECISION AND ORDER

Dept: C (Courtroom 35)

In a reported decision, this court rejected, without prejudice, the application by Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., (SPS) for payment of \$228,288.47 in unclaimed funds on deposit in the United States Treasury pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 347(a). That decision also determined that a debtor cannot leapfrog the distribution scheme of 11 U.S.C. § 726 and does not become entitled to unclaimed funds merely because a payee on a chapter 7 trustee's dividend check issued on account of an allowed claim has not come forward timely to assert its rights to the funds.

In re Jestina Pickett, 632 B.R. 78, 70 Bankr. Ct. Dec. 154 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. 2021).

At that time, this court was not persuaded that SPS had provided "full proof" of being the "rightful owner" of the funds as required by 28 U.S.C. § 2042. The circumstances of the \$228,288.47 chapter 7 dividend as they then appeared, based on the trustee's sale of real property for which recording of the deed of trust had been bungled, suggested there might be other claimants. Accordingly, the SPS application was denied without prejudice.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

2.4

25

26

27

28

Now supported by a better record, SPS re-applies for payment of the \$228,288.47 that is on deposit in the Treasury pursuant to \$ 347(a) and subject to disposal under Chapter 129 of Title 28 - i.e., 28 U.S.C. \$\$ 2041-2045.

SPS submitted the following documents to make its record in support of "full proof" of its status as the "rightful owner" of the unclaimed funds as required by 28 U.S.C. § 2042:

- (1) Promissory Note;
- (2) Deed of Trust;
- (3) Face Page of Pooling and Servicing Agreement between Mortgage Trustee and Loan Servicer;
- (4) Loan Modification Agreement;
- (5) Consent Order by Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System;
- (6) Notice of Servicing Transfer;
- (7) Original Application of Unclaimed Funds by SPS;
- (8) Limited Power of Attorney;
- (9) Subservicing Agreement between Servicer and Subservicer;
- (10) Notice of Servicing Transfer; and
- (11) Declaration from Title Insurance Company.

SPS also provided under seal for inspection in camera an unredacted version of the servicer/subservicer agreement.

This court has reviewed all of the materials provided by SPS and is now persuaded that SPS has provided "full proof" it is the "rightful owner" of the unclaimed funds for purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 2042.

IT IS ORDERED that the application of Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., for distribution of the \$228,288.47 on deposit in the Treasury is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk is directed to pay \$228,288.47 from the Unclaimed Funds to:

> Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. Attn: Shariyu Preston Corp Legal 3217 S. Decker Lake Drive Salt Lake City, UT 84119

The funds may be disbursed only after 14 calendar days from the entry on docket of this order to allow for the appeal period

to expire.

Dated: January 17, 2023

United States Bankruptcy Judge

INSTRUCTIONS TO CLERK OF COURT SERVICE LIST

2

1

The Clerk of Court is instructed to send the attached Order via first class mail, to the following parties:

- 4 Jestina L. Pickett 232 West Lucita Way
- 5 Mountain House, CA 95391
- 6 Jestina Pickett 28 E. Legacy Dr.
- 7 Tracy, CA 95391
- 8 David Van Dyke
 2111 West March Lane, Suite B300
 9 Stockton, CA 95207
- 10 Rick Morin 555 Capitol Mall Suite 750 11 Sacramento, CA 95814
- 12 Arnold Graff
 Wright, Finlay & Zak, LLP
- 13 4665 MacArthur Court, Suite 200 Newport Beach, CA 92660

14 Dana Suntag

- 15 Herum Crabtree Suntag 5757 Pacific Avenue, Suite 222
- 16 | Stockton, CA 95207
- 17 Gary Farrar PO Box 576097
- 18 Modesto, CA 95357
- 19 Office of the U.S. Trustee 501 I Street, Suite 7-500
- 20 Sacramento, CA 95814
- 21 Arthur Unger
- Brighton Capital Corporation
- 22 8185 Via Ancho Road Boca Raton, FL 33488

23

24

25

26

27

28